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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL
USES OF OUTER SPACE

INFORMATION FURNISHED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CONVENTION ON REGISTRATION OF OBJECTS LAUNCHED INTO OUTER SPACE

Note verbale dated 16 February 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations (New York) addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations (New York) presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in accordance with article IV of the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space,* has the honour to convey information on the ASTRID satellite (see annex).

*General Assembly resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex, of 12 November 1974.

Annex

REGISTRATION DATA FOR SWEDISH SPACE LAUNCHES*

Launching State:	Sweden	
Name:	ASTRID	
Registration number:	1995-02B Catalogue number: 23464	
Date and territory of launch:	24 January 1995, at 0354:22 UT, Plesetsk, Russian Federation	
Basic orbital parameters:	Nodal Period:	105.1 minutes
	Inclination:	82.9 degrees
	Apogee:	1,026 kilometres
	Perigee:	968 kilometres

General description and mission of the space object:

The ASTRID satellite is a cube with 0.4 metres sides. It has four deployed solar panels, each measuring 0.4 x 0.4 metres. The satellite weighs 26 kilogrammes and is spin-stabilised.

ASTRID carries scientific instruments designed to investigate near-space plasma with emphasis on neutral particle phenomena. By making high resolution measurements in the upper atmosphere and the lower magnetosphere, it will be possible to greatly increase the knowledge of basic processes of fundamental importance to the physics of neutral particles.

The payload, designed by the Swedish Institute of Space Physics in Kiruna, Sweden, consists of three instruments:

- A Neutral Particle Imager (PIPPI) which will measure energetic neutral particles in the Earth's magnetosphere. It is the first time ever that an instrument of this type will fly on a spacecraft.
- A miniature ultra-violet (UV) imaging system (MIO) which will measure UV and visible light in two pass bands and provide the Lyman α intensity, an important parameter for evaluation of the Neutral Particle Imager data.
- An electron spectrometer (EMIL) that will provide the electron distribution function, thus supporting the Neutral Particle Imager in terms of relating the measurements of neutrals to different magnetospheric regions.

*The registration data are reproduced in the form in which they were received.